

# TOKEN HUNTER

The official  
publication  
of the National  
Utah Token  
Society (NUTS)



Dedicated to the  
collecting, recording  
and preserving  
of Utah's historical  
medals tokens and bottles

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\*\*\*\*\* **NEXT MEETING** \*\*\*\*\*

Thursday, June 22  
7:00 PM  
Redwood  
Multipurpose Center  
3100 S. Redwood Road  
Salt Lake City, Utah

| JULY |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|
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| 25   | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |  |  |  |  |

Chuck Larson  
  
Will talk about  
Forgeries

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**Display Winners at the NUTS Coin and Token Show:**

Leo Vera—Best of Show—Nitrate Mine Tokens Issued in Chile, Peru, & Bolivia  
Chris Ansell—First Place Junior—State Quarters  
Don Keener—First Place Hand Held Collectables  
Karen Secor—People's Choice—Little Schoolhouse on the Prairie



## President's

## Message

Karen and I have been finding these smashed rounded looking lampie things at coal mining towns, I finally found a name on one, "Grier Bros," and found out this was a coal miner's oil wick cap lamp. These lamps were used in the U.S. 1860 to 1920, just before the carbide lamps came into use. Our one brass lamp cleaned up nicely, but is missing the cap and hook, but two other lamps we found have the parts—Maybe to restore one completely. This lamp is on our windowsill holding some little silk flowers. I'll bring in some pictures I downloaded, to help you recognize these different lamps.

Thanks everybody for your support at the Coin and Token Show. We had a good time, and everything went well.

*Rich Secor*

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## July 22, 2004 NUTS Meeting

### At the Redwood Multipurpose Center

### Bring your Finds of the Month

The winner of each category gets a silver dime. The Treasure Hunter of the Month gets a silver quarter.

### Promptness Prize

Those who come to the meeting on time and sign the log book, might win the drawing for a nice coin.

**Chuck Larson** will talk about forgeries. If you've seen some of Chuck's <sup>reproductions</sup> ~~forgeries~~, you know they are very good. He has done extensive research and hours of trial and error, to repeat the same process used to produce the original items. Chuck talked to our club a few years ago, and has agreed to come back again.

### Raffle Drawing

Try for your favorite prize, and have fun.





Miners Wearing Oil Wick Cap Lamps



Trethaway Bros. Lamp  
Oil Wick Cap Lamp



Carbide Lamp, Introduced in the 1920's



## **Last Meeting**

Twenty people attended  
the June meeting

Dave Rowel shared some  
of his knowledge of  
Metal Detectors.  
Thank you Dave

## **Up Coming Events**

**July 22**

**NUTS Meeting**

Redwood Multipurpose Center

7:00 p.m.

Chuck Larson  
will talk about forgeries

**Aug 26**

**NUTS Picnic**

Bring a pot luck dish  
to the train station

1200 West, off No. Temple

6:00 p.m.

**Sept 23**

**NUTS Meeting**

Redwood Multipurpose Center

7:00 p.m.

Chuck & Eileen Little

From the Regency Mint

Will tell about how

our NUTS medals are made

## **Find of the Month Winners For June**

### **US COIN**

----1884 Seated Dime

---- Ty Lamph

### **FOREIGN COIN**

----Chinese Coin

---- Leo Vera

### **TOKEN**

-----Home Ranch, Cheyenne, Wyo.

---- Karen Secor

### **JEWELRY**

----WWII Silver Ring

----Ty Lamph

### **ARTIFACT**

----Cast Iron Turkey

----Rich Secor

### **BUTTON**

-----Tootle Train Button

---- Rich Secor

### **NON-METAL**

----1940's Victory Glass Tank

----Leo Vera

### **MARBLE**

----Amber Marble

----Leo Vera

### **OLDEST US COIN**

----1875 c.c. Dime

---- Ty Lamph

### **OLDEST US CENT (tie)**

----1910

---- Leo Vera

----Ty Lamph

### **MOST VALUABLE U.S. COIN**

-----1888 Seated Quarter (\$25 or \$45)

### **PEOPLES CHOICE BOTTLE**

----Leroux Liquor

----Leo Vera

## "WELCOME TO CORINNE"

(A Unique Little Town)

By Marian N. Danielson

Although the official date for the founding of Corinne is March 25, 1869, when the first lots were sold, the city was in existence before that date. On January 16, 1869, Corinne consisted of a small collection of buildings and tents, a saloon north of the railroad tracks and a rope ferry operated on the Bear River.

Also during this same period a number of men consisting of former officers of the Union Army and Gentile merchants who had found their way into the Territory, and spent a portion of the winter at Salt Lake City, became disgusted with the ways and practices of the Latter-day Saints. One day they met on the banks of the Bear River, took a survey of the magnificent valley that lay stretched out before them and located claims on even sections of land as near the river crossing as they could get in hopes that the Union Pacific Railroad would establish a town at this spot. The railroad company had not as yet devoted any thought to selecting towns, but it was their sole desire to build up one flourishing Gentile town in the valley with good soil, water and facilities for trade. This location met all their requirements.

The morning of March 25, 1869 was pleasant and cherry and a little after 10 o'clock General James A. Williamson, land agent for the railroad, commenced the sale of lots for the new town. Hundreds of men from Salt Lake, Denver, Cheyenne, Ogden and other towns gathered to invest their money. Fifty-one lots were sold that first day to the value of over \$20,000 ranging from \$300 to \$600 per lot. The sale was the largest ever made by the railroad company in one day. Many lots changed hands, some several times during a night of card playing, of a profit of from \$250 to \$500. During the spring and summer building and resident lots were sold to the value of about \$70,000. The city plat is approximately 2 miles square, laid off with blocks of 12 lots each, 22 x 132 feet in size, with a 16 foot alley through the center of each block.

In the two weeks following more than 300 frame buildings and tents were put up. A temporary city government was organized with a mayor, council and police force and on February 18, 1870 the legislative assembly of Utah incorporated the town. General Williamson was given the honor of naming the new town. He gave it the name of "CORINNE" after his 12-year old daughter.

Impressions of Corinne differed between those who were on the outside looking in and those who were on the inside looking out. People passing through "on the cars" rarely saw more than the cluster of tents, shacks and unrestrained characters that were to be seen in any town serving the new railroad, but the people who planned to make it their home were already endowing it with the glories they could see in the future.

The founders of Corinne were men of means and as a result the town developed very rapidly. At first most of the buildings were half lumber and half canvas, which by some people was thought to show a lack of confidence in the permanence of the new town. But the merchants had these temporary structures on hand and while waiting for lumber to become cheaper and more plentiful, they decided to use them to open for business. The first large business opened as a wholesale grocery in a large tent costing probably \$500. This was in the early part of April and by the middle of August, that same establishment occupied an adobe brick building worth several thousand dollars.

The railroad tracks entered the valley about the first of March and crossed the Bear River about a month later and by then the town was on the way to becoming a full fledged city with a population of nearly 800 residents.



Corinne was a unique city in two ways; it was the first important Gentile town in Mormon Utah and based its economy upon the freighting industry rather than being a Mormon agricultural settlement. It was difficult at first to believe that she would survive; yet in the darkest hours of 1869 her founders had faith in the future. For three years or more they had chased the rails in search of a permanent town, but only to give up their dreams to following the track layers as they passed ever westward. At last their long campaign had ended and here they intended to remain.

How much of a town is Corinne? Is any business done there? These were questions that were frequently asked by strangers and those who had never been to Corinne. In September 1869 Corinne had a population estimated from 800 to 2000 according to the size of the estimator's eyes. This population included all the races: Caucasian, Mongolian, African, Indian and even mixtures of Malay. The nations of Europe were all represented as well as Mexico, South America, Africa, China and every other place. The railroad element and camp followers moved out during May and June 1869 and the business element started to dominate the life of the community and give it its characteristics.

During the period from 1869 to 1878 there were four major forwarding and commission firms in Corinne. In addition there were many merchants who carried large stocks of assorted merchandise to sell directly to the Montana and Idaho shopkeepers or their agents.

One of the most important industries in Corinne was that of banking. Prior to 1869, there were no banks in Box Elder County and the history of banking in the county begins in Corinne. (Prior to 1869 the medium of exchange in Box Elder County was produce.) From 1869 to 1910 Corinne boasted four banks at various times.

A small but very important phase of the economic life of Corinne was represented by the blacksmiths, wagon dealers and livery stables. These men were usually located near the freight warehouses and railroad track where the freighters camped.

Business places were established early to provide recreation, housing and the feeding of the citizens of Corinne and the freighters. There were also still a few unadvertised prostitutes and gamblers in the town as carryovers of the more boisterous days of 1869; however, both of these were suppressed. Establishments which sold liquor were numerous and from 1869 to 1878 there were at least forty places that sold liquor either by the package or the drink. These included saloons, restaurants, billiard halls, grocers, hotels and liquor stores. Beer was brewed in the city and as late as 1885, Corinne had its own brewery.

The housing problem was easy to solve, because many of the single merchants lived in their places of business and the freighters generally stayed with their wagons. Others lived in private homes or hotels.

Restaurants were fairly numerous from the earliest days. Many of these were associated with the hotels or the front room of a home. Meal tickets could be bought for \$5 a week or 50¢ a meal.

An inventory of all Corinne businesses that advertised in the Corinne newspapers during the years of 1869 to 1878 shows 457 companies active for all or part of that time. These included: Attorneys, Auctioners, Bakeries, Banks, Barber shops, Bathhouses, Billiard halls, Blacksmiths, Boardinghouses, Books/stationery, Breweries, Brickyards, Carpenters, Clothing/dry goods, Coal Yards, Dairies, Dentists, Doctors, Druggists, Factories, Furs, Furniture, Freightlines, Grocers, Gunsmiths, Hardware, Harnessmakers, Hotels, Housemovers, Ice dealers, Insurance, Jewelers, Laundries, Liquor, Liveries, Lumber mills, Meat markets, Millinery, Flour mill, Painters, Photographers, Powderworks, Produce, Restaurants, Saloons, Shoemakers, Smelters, Tailors, Telegraph, Tobacco, Wagon shops, and Water wagons.

(to be continued next month)

## ALL ABOUT COINS

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Rich Secor

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Wanted: old bottles and insulators,  
also wanted: old small western advertising items,  
pocket mirrors, medals, trade tokens, ect.

Don 801-775-9665

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## NUTS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Special Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Who may we thank for referring you to the NUTS Club? \_\_\_\_\_

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